



It remained for Gov. Durbin, of Indiana, to teach the mob that this is a government of law, and not of lawlessness; and the Governors of States where mob law has prevailed, their duty when the majesty of the law is defied. The Governor of Indiana appears to have more backbone than all the Governors of those states where the mob has held sway, and challenged Governors, Judges, jurors to exercise their legal functions. The set of spineless cowards in the Gubernatorial chair, and on the bench in the miserable little State of Delaware are utterly unworthy of respect. That they have white livers and chicken hearts is shown by their weak surrender to the demand of the mob of cutthroats and murderers, who recently disgraced the civilization of America and of Delaware particularly, by acts of violence unworthy of a free State. These human tigers drove the Governor into a corner and made the Judges tremble with fear. Delaware and hell are now synonymous terms. Beware of Delaware.

Virginia, the mother of Presidents and picayune statesmen—barring the illustrious names of revolutionary times, who gave it prestige and brought it fame, has always been wrong on the suffrage question. It is wrong now. It was wrong in 1787, when the Federal convention met in Philadelphia to adopt the Constitution. Its representatives in that body doggedly contended for the incorporation of the 7th residue, viz: "That the right of suffrage in the first branch of the National Legislature ought not to be according to the rule established in the articles of confederation, but according to some equitable vote of representation; viz.: in proportion to the whole number of white and other free citizens, and inhabitants of every age, sex and condition, including those born to servitude for a term of years and three fifths of all other persons, not comprehended in the foregoing description, except Indians not paying taxes in each State." The resolution was ably discussed by various members of the body, nearly all of whom dissented from the Virginia idea and said so in pretty

strong terms. Luther Martin, the Delegate from Maryland, and Attorney General of that State, in an able and exhaustive speech, opposed the resolution, saying among other things: "The corner stone of a Federal government is equality of votes. States may surrender this right, but if they do, their liberties are lost * * * The first principle of government is founded on the natural rights of individuals and in perfect equality. Locke Vattel, Lord Somers, Dr. Priestly, all confirm this principle * * * Price says that laws made by one man or a set of men and not by common consent, is slavery and it is so when applied to States, if you give them an unequal representation. What are called human feelings in this instance are only the feelings of ambition and the lust of power." Virginia's New Constitution was forced upon the people of that State, without their consent. A set of men, ambitious and hungry for office and power, jammed it through the Convention, without even subscribing to the provisions of the Federal law under whose authority only, Constitutional Conventions may act. Some of the men who assisted in railroading this iniquitous and roaring farce through the Convention, absolutely refused to take the prescribed oath of fealty to the Federal government without whose sanction no Constitution can be a valid, legal document.

The Federal Constitution in express terms provides that the United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican form of Government and shall protect each of them against evasion; and on application of the legislature, or of the executive, (when the legislature cannot be convened,) against domestic violence. What is a Republican form of Government? Manifestly one in which the will of all the people is expressed through representatives by them chosen. The Negroes of Virginia were not permitted to register their will on the question of the adoption of the New Constitution; they had no voice and no representation in the Convention, which adopted it. The deliberations of that Convention were characterized by bitter denunciation of a class of the citizenship by Delegates there assembled and by the brazen assertions of some of them that this Constitution is intended to deprive them of the right of suffrage. If this does not constitute an act of invasion upon the rights of citizens of a sovereign State, what does? And what is the duty of the Federal government in the premises? The Federal Constitution appears to have been violated in the adoption of this juggled Constitution of Virginia, and the Negroes of that State do well to fight to the death the bold

and brazen attempt of the white man of that State to resolute them out of their rights of citizenship. It is up to the law making branch of the Government to define what constitutes a Republican form of Government; who are citizens and whether the States may, with impunity, deprive any class of their citizens of rights expressly conferred upon all persons born or naturalized in the United States, by the Federal Constitution. No sane man believes that the disfranchisement legislation of the South will stand the test of rigid legal examination. The men who put the amendments in the Federal Constitution were giants in intellect and the South has not produced in recent years any legal minds that could have coped with the lawyers in the Senate and House, when the Constitution as amended was framed and adopted. We should give ourselves no concern about the threatened repeal of the 20th amendment. It will never be repealed during the present century or the next. Nothing is more entrenched in the organic law, than the three sacred amendments. They stand for the honor and the good faith of the Nation, and the Nation as a Nation, will never recede from the pledges it has given to the black man, who helped it to keep the jewel of liberty in its diadem and to put down a treasonable rebellion. The demand for the repeal of the 20th amendment comes only from the South. The North, the East and the West are not asking for it. This is significant. Reduced to the last analysis, the agitation for the repeal of the 20th amendment and the disfranchisement by the States of their Negro voters will be found to be a deep laid Democratic scheme, backed by commercial interests in the North of doughface tendencies, which have been affected by certain legislation in Congress, which strikes at their pocket nerves, and in retaliation for what it believes to be the hostility of the administration toward them, they are, under cover, encouraging the misguided Southern Statesman to hope against hope, and spurring the trust organs of the North to oppose the present administration's policy by making the Negro an issue and making him odious by a systematic policy, glaring misrepresentation and sensationalism. It won't work. The scheme is too transparent and dumsy. All of this plotting and scheming of the open and secret enemies of the administration has but one object—the defeat of the nomination of President Roosevelt. It will find in glorious all the powers of Hades and Delaware combined cannot now defeat the present incumbent of the White House of the nomination, if he wants it. His nomination is assured. His election will put a *quietus* upon all this South-

ern deviltry and Northern treachery, which hides behind the blatant and arrogant South and furnishes the sinews of war in the unholy crusade to invalidate and mutilate the sacred pledges of the Nation to a race, which, when these men who are now seeking to make it reverse itself and become the laughing stock of Nations, a by-word and a hissing, bared their black breasts on nearly every battle field of the Republic to make the stars and stripes the emblem of human liberty on the American continent. Treason lost out in 1861; it cannot win out in 1903, or '04, even with the aid of the Northern copperhead, in New York, one of its hot beds.

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